

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

WE CLAIM:

1. - 5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A method ~~according to claim 5 including:~~ for alternative routing of a connection between a source node and a destination node in a PNNI hierarchical network, the method comprising responding to a failed connection between said nodes due to a sole-access element of a network structure as seen by the source node, where a said sole-access element is an element which provides sole access to the destination node in said network structure, by:
_____ examining possible routes closest to the destination node;
_____ selecting at least one non-sole-access element of a particular route used by the failed connection in said network structure;
_____ identifying an alternative route for the failed connection in said network structure which utilizes said at least one non-sole-access element;
_____ using the alternative route for establishment of the failed connection between said source and destination nodes;
_____ checking whether said alternative route satisfies a set of predefined connection constraints, wherein said alternative route is used for establishment of the connection only if said constraints are satisfied,

_____ wherein said at least one element is a link of said network structure,

wherein the step of selecting comprises selecting from the set of all non-sole-access links used by said failed connection which are outside the PNNI peer group of the source node the link which is closest to a predetermined one of the source and destination nodes, and further comprising:

(a) if a successful connection is not established using the alternative route, selecting from said set of non-sole-access links the next closest link to the predetermined node, identifying a

1 new alternative route for said connection which does not utilize said next closest link, and using
2 the new alternative route for establishment of the connection between said nodes; and
3 (b) repeating step (a) for the new alternative route until all links in said set have been
4 selected.

5 7. (original) A method according to claim 6 including checking whether an identified new
6 alternative route satisfies a set of predefined connection constraints, wherein the identified new
7 alternative route is used for establishment of the connection only if said constraints are satisfied.

8 8. (original) A method according to claim 6 wherein said new alternative route does not utilize
9 any link of said set between said predetermined node and said next closest link.

10 9. (canceled)

11 10. (Currently amended) A method ~~according to claim 4~~ for alternative routing of a connection
12 between a source node and a destination node in a PNNI hierarchical network, the method
13 comprising responding to a failed connection between said nodes due to a sole-access element of
14 a network structure as seen by the source node, where a said sole-access element is an element
15 which provides sole access to the destination node in said network structure, by:
16 _____ examining possible routes closest to the destination node;]
17 _____ selecting at least one non-sole-access element of a particular route used by the failed
18 connection in said network structure;
19 _____ identifying an alternative route for the failed connection in said network structure which
20 utilizes said at least one non-sole-access element; and
21 _____ using the alternative route for establishment of the failed connection between said source
22 and destination nodes;
23 _____ checking whether said alternative route satisfies a set of predefined connection
24 constraints, wherein said alternative route is used for establishment of the connection only if said
25 constraints are satisfied.

1 wherein said at least one element is a link of said network structure,

2 wherein the step of selecting comprises selecting all non-sole-access links of the route used by

3 said failed connection which are outside the PNNI peer group of the source node, and

4 wherein, if a successful connection is not established using said alternative route, the method
5 includes:

6 (a) selecting from the set of all non-sole-access links used by said failed connection
7 which are outside the PNNI peer group of the source node the link which is closest to a
8 predetermined one of the source and destination nodes, identifying a new alternative route for the
9 connection which does not utilize said closest link, and using the new alternative route for
10 establishment of the connection between said nodes; and

11 (b) if a successful connection is not established using the new alternative route, selecting
12 from said set of non-sole-access links the next closest link to the predetermined node, identifying
13 a new alternative route for said connection which does not utilize said next closest link and using
14 the new alternative route so identified for establishment of the connection between said nodes;
15 and

16 (c) repeating step (b) for the new alternative route so identified until all links in said set
17 have been selected.

18 11. (original) A method according to claim 10 including checking whether an identified new
19 alternative route satisfies a set of predefined connection constraints, wherein the identified new
20 alternative route is used for establishment of the connection only if said constraints are satisfied.

21 12. (original) A method according to claim 10 wherein the new alternative route identified in step
22 (b) does not utilize any link of said set between said predetermined node and said next closest
23 link.

24 13. - 18. (canceled)

19. (Currently amended) Apparatus ~~according to claim 18~~ for alternative routing of a connection between a source node and a destination node in a PNNI hierarchical network, the apparatus comprising:

_____ memory for storing topology data, defining a network structure as seen by the source node, and route data indicative of a particular route in said network structure used for establishment of a connection between the source node and a destination node;

_____ control logic configured to respond to a failed connection between said nodes due to a sole-access element of the network structure as seen by the source node, where a said sole-access element is an element which provides sole access to the destination node in said network structure, by:

_____ examining possible routes closest to the destination node;

_____ selecting at least one non-sole-access element of the route used by the failed connection in accordance with said route data;

_____ identifying from said topology data an alternative route for the failed connection which utilizes said at least one non-sole-access element; and

_____ outputting the alternative route for establishment of the failed connection between said source and destination nodes.

wherein the control logic is configured to check whether the alternative route satisfies a set of predefined connection constraints, and to output the alternative route for establishment of the connection only if said constraints are satisfied.

wherein said at least one element is a link of said network structure.

wherein the control logic is configured to select from the set of all non-sole-access links used by the failed connection which are outside the PNNI peer group of the source node the link which is closest to a predetermined one of the source and destination nodes when performing said selecting step.

wherein the control logic is configured such that:

(a) if a successful connection is not established using the alternative route, the control logic selects from said set of non-sole-access links the next closest link to the predetermined node, identifies a new alternative route for said connection which does not utilize said next closest link, and outputs the new alternative route for establishment of the connection between said nodes; and

(b) the control logic repeats step (a) for the new alternative route until all links in said set have been selected.

20. (original) Apparatus according to claim 19 wherein the control logic is configured to check whether an identified new alternative route satisfies a set of predefined connection constraints, and to output the identified new alternative route for establishment of the connection only if said constraints are satisfied.

21. (original) Apparatus according to claim 19 wherein the new alternative route does not utilize any link of said set between said predetermined node and said next closest link.

22. (canceled)

23. (Currently amended) Apparatus ~~according to claim 17~~ for alternative routing of a connection between a source node and a destination node in a PNNI hierarchical network, the apparatus comprising:

_____ memory for storing topology data, defining a network structure as seen by the source node, and route data indicative of a particular route in said network structure used for establishment of a connection between the source node and a destination node;

_____ control logic configured to respond to a failed connection between said nodes due to a sole-access element of the network structure as seen by the source node, where a said sole-access element is an element which provides sole access to the destination node in said network structure, by:

_____ examining possible routes closest to the destination node;

1 selecting at least one non-sole-access element of the route used by the failed connection
2 in accordance with said route data;
3 identifying from said topology data an alternative route for the failed connection which
4 utilizes said at least one non-sole-access element; and
5 outputting the alternative route for establishment of the failed connection between said
6 source and destination nodes.

7 wherein the control logic is configured to check whether the alternative route satisfies a set of
8 predefined connection constraints, and to output the alternative route for establishment of the
9 connection only if said constraints are satisfied.

10 wherein said at least one element is a link of said network structure.

11 wherein the control logic is configured to select all non-sole-access links of the route used by
12 said failed connection which are outside the PNNI peer group of the source node when
13 performing said selecting step.

14 wherein the control logic is configured such that, if a successful connection is not established
15 using said alternative route:

16 (a) the control logic selects from the set of all non-sole-access links used by said failed
17 connection which are outside the PNNI peer group of the source node the link which is closest to
18 a predetermined one of the source and destination nodes, identifies a new alternative route for the
19 connection which does not utilize said closest link, and outputs the new alternative route for
20 establishment of the connection between said nodes; and

21 (b) if a successful connection is not established using the new alternative route, the
22 control logic selects from said set of non-sole-access links the next closest link to the
23 predetermined node, identifies a new alternative route for said connection which does not utilize
24 said next closest link, and outputs the new alternative route so identified for establishment of the
25 connection between said nodes; and

1 (c) the control logic repeats step (b) for the new alternative route so identified until all
2 links in said set have been selected.

3 24. (original) Apparatus according to claim 23 wherein the control logic is configured to check
4 whether an identified new alternative route satisfies a set of predefined connection constraints,
5 and to output the identified new alternative route for establishment of the connection only if said
6 constraints are satisfied.

7 25. (original) Apparatus according to claim 23 wherein the new alternative route identified in
8 step (b) does not utilize any link of said set between said predetermined node and said next
9 closest link.

10 26. - 31. (canceled)